

V. I. A. Annual

DEVOTED TO VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT AND TOWN BETTERMENT

VOL. LXIII

TYNGSBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

APRIL, 1958



Courtesy of Thomas "Ed" Coughlin

Tyngsborough Town Hall - Tyngsborough, Mass.

The Tyngsborough Town Hall was built in 1834 on land which the Baptist Society purchased the previous year from Dr. Calvin Thomas, for a Meeting House. Dr. Thomas lived across the street on the hill where Mr. Woodsum now lives.

The Baptist Society was organized in 1829 and had a succession of settled ministers, among whom were Rev. Mr. Parkhurst and Rev. Mr. Herrick. The building was closed in 1857. It was sold at Public Auction in 1864, when the Town of Tyngsborough purchased it for a school house and town hall.

A description of this building is given in the 1909 V. I. A. Annual as follows:

"The church resembled the First Parish Church in general outline and the belfry was nearly the same pattern.

"In the transformation from church to school house this belfry was entirely removed and when completed the structure had assumed both inside and out the 'New England Farm Barn' style of architecture.

"In 1865 the Winslow School was transferred to this building and when the Public Library was organized, in 1878, it also found a home here.

"For fourteen years this was a combined Town Hall, School House and Public Library."

When the Winslow School was transferred to the Town Hall there was no porch on the front of the building, but there were two doors, widely separated, one for the boys and one for the girls. These led to separate entry ways with coat rooms. From each entry way a door led into the main school room (now the Town Hall auditorium.) Between these doors in the center of the north wall stood the teacher's desk on a raised platform with two steps leading

up to it, and a blackboard behind it. In the winter the Winslow School teacher was a man, for in the winter big boys who worked on the farms in the Spring and Fall had a chance to come in for their schooling. A woman taught in the Spring and Fall.

In the center of the room stood a huge circular coal stove, about five or six feet high around which the boys and girls used to gather.

There were two rows of double desks on either side of a center aisle, with boys on one side and girls on the other. Two long settees were at the front, where scholars came to recite their lessons, each pupil standing as his turn came to recite.

Across the back of the room a long blackboard extended the full width of the room, fine for examples in long division and algebra. To reach this blackboard it was necessary to take one step up onto a long platform.

At the front of the building between the entry ways was a small room which housed the Town Library. Mr. Louville Curtis was the librarian and his wife, Lizzie Curtis, his assistant, handed out the books. Above this room, in what is now the gallery was a room where the primary scholars were taught by a woman teacher. This was seventy five years ago. Occasionally these smaller children were sent down to the man teacher downstairs to recite their lessons to him.

For Town Meetings the upper hall was used, but the Caucus was held downstairs. The Moderator of the Caucus, in very early days stood on a low platform at a circular desk of dark varnished wood. This was said to be the old pulpit of the Baptist Church.

The lower hall included the Town Office Room. The kitchen was long and narrow, along the west wall at the north end, where we enter the dining room today. The lower hall was used as a dining room as well as a meeting place.

(Continued on Page 5)

V.I.A. ANNUAL

Published each year by the

Village Improvement Association of Tyngsborough
VOL. LXIII APRIL, 1958

OFFICERS OF THE V.I.A.

Frank Herrmann, President
Earle R. Stratton, 1st Vice President
Charles Derbabian, 2nd Vice President
Barbara H. Lambert, Clerk and Corresponding Secretary
Henry J. LaFrance, Treasurer
Helen D. Betz, Auditor

Executive Committee

Mr. Ellis Hurst	1958	Mrs. Ellis Hurst	1958
Mr. Jerome Hatfield	1959	Mrs. Jerome Hatfield	1959
Mr. George Shipley	1960	Mrs. George Shipley	1960

Report of The Annual Meeting

The Annual Banquet and Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was held at the Town Hall on November 14, 1957. The dinner was under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Hurst. Approximately forty people attended.

Mr. Martin E. Betz conducted the meeting for the President, Mr. Charles Derbabian, who felt he could be more helpful in the kitchen. The report of the clerk was accepted as read. The report of the treasurer and auditor were accepted as read.

The Nominating Committee: Mr. Chester H. Queen, Mr. John E. Barr and Mr. Richard O. Starkey presented the following slate of officers.

President—Frank Herrmann
1st Vice President—Earle R. Stratton
2nd Vice President—Charles Derbabian
Clerk and Corresponding Secretary—Barbara H. Lambert
Treasurer—Henry LaFrance
Auditor—Helen D. Betz
Executive Committee for three years — Mr. and Mrs. George Shipley
Executive Committee for two years—Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Hatfield

The Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for the entire slate of officers.

The flowers on the head table were dedicated in memory of Maude Queen, Clara Belle Marshall, Ernest Wilkins and Blanche Coles. A page in the permanent record was set aside "in memoriam."

The meeting was then turned over to Mr. Elliott Diggle, Superintendent of Schools, who in turn introduced the guest speaker—Mr. Hwang from Malaya, who is an exchange student studying at Harvard.

Mr. Diggle spoke about the exchange students being the best ambassadors abroad in their own country, especially after they spend some time with the people of our country attending meetings such as the V. I. A. They get a much better viewpoint of our country, people and customs.

Mr. Hwang said he enjoyed the dinner, but he also knew he really wasn't invited just for dinner but to make a speech. He then told of Malaya, its different peoples, races, religions, languages, schools, etc. Parties are very hard to plan for with all the different likes in foods as well as religious requirements. Its population is 49% Malayan, 29% Chinese 11% Indian and 10% other races. There are four different school systems, English, Malayan, Indian and Chinese (private), but still education there is a luxury. He described the Malaysians as music lovers, carefree and spendthrifts. The country itself is very wealthy and self-supporting. The schools are co-educational, English is a compulsory subject and the average salary of a teacher is \$100.00 per month. Malaya has been a free country since August 1, 1957.

Following Mr. Hwang's talk, many interesting questions were asked about the country and conditions there today.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen D. Betz
Clerk, pro tem
Barbara H. Lambert
Clerk

Treasurer's Report For The Year Ending

October 31, 1957

Analysis of Balance Nov. 1, 1956		
Savings Accounts	\$ 594.70	
Checking Account	185.54	
Balance		\$ 780.24
Dues Paid	62.00	
Donations	60.00	842.24
Interest on Savings	23.91	902.24
		926.15

ACTIVITIES

Annual Supper Meeting		
Proceeds	\$ 46.49	
Expenses	60.58	
Net Loss		14.09
Annual Fair		912.06
Sales Tables	\$136.10	
Supper		
Proceeds	79.95	
Expenses	64.21	
Net Gain		15.74
Play		
Proceeds	148.55	
Expenses	104.15	
Net Gain		44.40
V. I. A. Annual		
Proceeds	263.50	
Expenses	401.60	
Net Loss		138.10
Net Profit		58.14
		970.20

PROJECTS

Redecorating Portion of Town Hall	148.07	
Dishes for Town Hall Kitchen	153.00	822.13
Share of Christmas Tree Lighting	9.33	669.13
Annual Clean-up Day	44.80	659.80
		615.00

OPERATING EXPENSES

Printing	9.00	
Service Charges on Checking Account	5.67	606.00
Balance October 31, 1957		\$ 600.33
Analysis of Balance Oct. 31, 1957		
Central Savings Bank	\$ 126.29	
Lowell Institution for Savings	234.80	
Union National Bank	157.52	
Union National Bank (Checking Account)	81.72	
Total		\$ 600.33

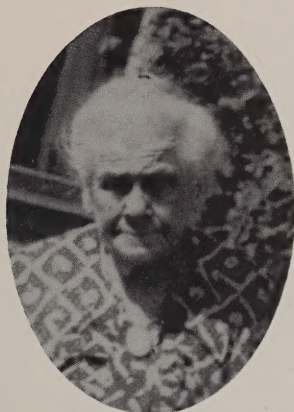
Respectfully submitted,
Henry LaFrance, Jr.
Treasurer

Nov. 14, 1957

I have examined the foregoing account and find it correct and the cash balance as stated.

Helen D. Betz
Auditor

In Memoriam



1861 Clara Belle Marshall (Sargent) 1957

The town's next to the oldest resident, Mrs. Clara Marshall of Kendall Road, died on March 10, 1957 at the age of 95.

She was married to the late Arthur R. Marshall in Tyngsborough on December 28, 1899.

Together with Mrs. Marshall's sister, Annah Sargent, they operated a boarding house for many years and were proud of the number of well-known persons whom they had as guests over the years.

From the 1957 Annual we see that the original Marshall Farm was part of the Percy Richardson farm, all of the Carl Gray farm, the Mitchell residence and land as far down as the John Reed boundaries on Kendall Road from the Dunstable line, as well as the old homestead, built in 1728 where Miss Sargent still resides with her grandniece and family, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morton.

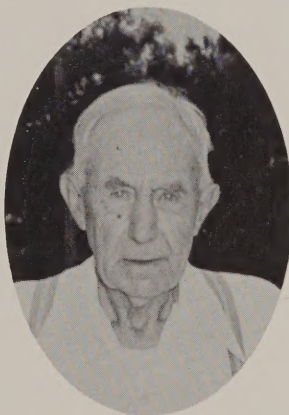


1914 Mrs. Eva Doyle 1957

Mrs. Doyle who was known as Evelyn to everyone was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on June 7, 1914. She died at the Memorial Hospital, Nashua, N. H. on November 17, 1957.

Evelyn was the wife of Tax Collector and the former acting Chief of Police, William Doyle. She was a quiet, retiring person who for many years took care of the fire alarm system of the Town and had for the past five years handled most of the emergency calls for the Police Department.

She is survived, in addition to her husband, by a daughter, Helen Ann, a student at Notre Dame Academy here in Tyngsborough.



1877 "Uncle Toot," Ernest W. Wilkins 1957

A great loss was experienced in the village this past year with the death of Park Commissioner Ernest W. Wilkins, at the age of 79 years and 10 months.

"Uncle Toot" as he was fondly known, enjoyed community life in Tyngsborough and took great interest in all public affairs and especially liked working with the young folks.

"Toot" was born in North Clarendon, Vermont, the son of Frank M. and Cordelia (Cobleigh) Wilkins, and he was proud to have been a "Vermonteer." He moved to Massachusetts at an early age and was employed by two clock-making firms around Boston. While working near the Hub, he played baseball with semi-professional and amateur teams.

He married the former Edith Packard and they lived briefly in Chelmsford before moving to Tyngsborough. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins had two daughters, Ruth, now wife of Rev. Richard Colby of East Greenwich, R. I., and Dr. Esther M. Wilkins, D. M. D., director of the school of Dental Hygienists at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Ernest loved the out doors and was employed by lumber firms and as a greenskeeper in and around Tyngsborough.

After his retirement and following the death of his wife, he became caretaker for the Carl Richmonds, where he made his home until his death last June.

"Uncle Toot" trained many teams of junior and little league baseball players and was loved by all his teams.

He "treated" all youngsters with sticks of gum at the ball games and on "party-day" at the town playground, he supplied balloons to all the children. A quart of ice cream was his award to any junior and little leaguers making home runs and he passed cold tonic to the lady rooters at the ball games, endearing himself to all.

He was Park Commissioner for the town for many years, painstakingly caring for the town beach and ball park.

An attendant of the Evangelical Congregational Church, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Cordelia Wilkins of Kendall Road, who will be 99 years of age on March 31st; his two daughters; two sisters, Mrs. Vera W. Clay of Manchester, N. H., and Mrs. Horace G. Clarke, of Kendall Road; and two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

F. C. G.



Capt. John Tyng the Indian Fighter

Son of Col. Jonathan Tyng for whom the Town of Tyngsborough was named, Harvard Graduate, 1691, never married, went to England and died there prior to 1721.

In the portrait he wears a scarlet coat which was probably of the uniform of the Massachusetts Militia.

This photograph was sent by Dr. Francis C. Tyng of California, whose family owns the original oil painting.

(Continued from Page 1)

Miss Edna Bancroft says, in the V. I. A. Annual for 1933;

"Here we had our socials, entertainments and for several winters a dancing school under Mr. Greene. Our local 'Orchestra' Mr. Frank French, violin; Mr. Fred Andrews, harp; with sometimes a cornetist added, gave us good music—and the rounds of waltzes, polkas, schottisches and contra dances gave us many evenings of delight.

"The V. I. A. responsible for many entertainments, was organized in 1890.

"In 1892, at the completion of the new Winslow School House," says the 1909 Annual, "the school and library were removed and this building remodeled. A stage was placed in the hall proper, the upper room was made into a gallery, a porch put on, a brick vault and safe, together with a room for town officers and a dining room occupied the basement; and a cupola, the gift of the late Dr. Orrin Fitzgerald, adorns the roof. Later dressing rooms were added to the back of the stage, a stairway from them to the lower hall and kitchen and toilets were put at the end of the supper room."

To quote again from the 1909 Annual, "recently a flag staff has been placed over the entrance and a fire escape made at the rear of the building. The stage has been enlarged, a fine set of scenery supplied and the whole lighted by electricity. With the new red and white electric foot lights it needs only an asbestos curtain to make it an ideal place for village entertainments."

This was the year, 1909, when electricity first came to Tyngsborough.

From other V. I. A. Annuals and Town Reports, we find that:

"In 1917 a new and commodious kitchen at the town hall, and a new pipe to supply water for the kitchen added much to the convenience of those who use the hall.

"In 1932—the scenery was freshly painted.

"In 1939—the tables were repaired and new window shades purchased for the upper hall by the V. I. A.

"In 1941—repairs were made to the cupola.

"In 1942—the town partitioned off the northwest corner of the lower hall for the use of the Police Department, and furnished a heater for the same. A room was also partitioned off for the Rationing Board on the east side of the dining hall, new electric light fixtures installed and a new stove purchased for the dining hall. A Raznor Automatic Gas Heating Stove was bought for the Selectmen's Office.

"In 1943—Velvet curtains for the stage were bought by the V. I. A. and installed by the Village Players and one set of scenery painted.

"In 1945—New dishes were bought for the kitchen.

"In 1946—The Town appropriated \$1,000.00 for painting the town hall and emergency lights were installed.

"In 1947—\$600.00 was expended for kitchen equipment and repairs, with \$200.00 received from the V. I. A. \$500.00 was spent by the town for exterior painting.

"In 1948—The kitchen was thoroughly cleaned and modernized, a new kitchen gas stove and coffee maker were purchased, several fluorescent lights and electric plugs installed, new kettles and trays purchased by the V. I. A. with contributions from other organizations.

"The lighting of the Christmas tree was initiated and has been continued up to the present time.

"In 1951—Repairs were made by the Town to the town hall roof, flag pole, kitchen and toilets and the dining hall was painted.

"In 1952—A space heater with thermostatic control was installed in the dining room.

"In 1953—The entire upper hall was redone with fresh white ceiling, light green walls and polished floor, the balcony and stage were refinished and Venetian blinds installed in the long windows.

"A gas hot water heater was placed in the lower hall.

"In 1955—Flame proof scenery was installed, a new sign placed on the front of the building above the entrance, upper and lower entry ways were repainted, new lights installed in halls and stairway and new bulletin boards provided, by the V. I. A.

"In 1957 the V. I. A. provided new Silver and China for the Dining Hall.

"The Grange completed last year a project, with other organizations co-operating, which provided 24 card tables for use at the hall.

"In 1956 the Town installed a new six hour fire door in the Safe."

Through the years it is evident that the Town Hall has been a meeting place for the people, as is shown by their efforts to constantly keep its appearance and facilities up to date. Not only has the Town carried its responsibility but also so many organizations.

Girl Scouting

Due to the tremendous growth in Girl Scouting, the Greater Lowell Girl Scout Council is now divided into Districts and the Districts into Neighborhoods.

The Girl Scouts of our town form the Tyngsborough Neighborhood of District VI which also includes the Neighborhoods of Dunstable, Groton, and North Chelmsford. Our District Chairman is Mrs. William Sandstrom of Groton. Tyngsborough has four Brownie Scout troops and three Intermediate troops, totaling one hundred twenty registered girls and about thirty five registered adults.

A Troop Organizer, Mrs. Bowers Fuller, Program Consultant, Mrs. Clarence Morton, Neighborhood Chairman and Troop Committees provide assistance to the troop leaders.

We are very proud of our leaders and assistant leaders who work week after week to bring the Girl Scout Program to our girls.

Both day camping and established camping are offered to the Girl Scouts. Day camps are "Machagamee" in Pelham and "Peta-pawag" in Groton. The established camp is "Runels" in Pelham. Camperships for all three are available to girls who need them.

We wish to express our appreciation for the use of the Town Hall, Firehouse, and the new school as meeting places for the Scouts.

To all who have helped in any way to support Girl Scouting, a sincere "Thank you."

Neighborhood Chairman

Bernice M. Sherburne



American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #247

OFFICERS:

President—Mae Carter

Senior Vice President—Mae Flanders

Junior Vice President—Yvonne Wilkins

Chaplain—Anne Knight

Secretary—Marion Anderson

Treasurer—Dorothy Magoon

Historian—Ruth Singleton

Sergeant-at-Arms—Bertha Knight

Executive Committee — Grace Stratton, Lillian Pineo, Helen Defoe

Another successful year was completed in 1957 under the capable direction of the above officers and the co-operation of all members.

We were once again able to sponsor a candidate to Girl's State.

The Auxiliary participated in a clothing drive for Save the Children Federation by contributing 183 lbs. of clothing. This venture was under the supervision of Mrs. Gladys Robinson and received good support from the public.

Donations from the Auxiliary were made to the Red Cross, March of Dimes, Community Chest, Little League, etc.

In May, our annual Poppy Day was held and was well supported. This enabled the veterans at Bedford Hospital to benefit from their sale as they received a cent and a half for each one sold.

Our Christmas Gift Shop, under the able chairmanship of Mrs. Grace Stratton was a great success. The gifts were donated to Bedford Hospital for the veterans to give to their families. The public response to this cause was most gratifying.

The Auxiliary has been able to assist the Legion in some of their projects such as the donation of cupcakes for the Friday night dances, and the Blue Crutch Drive.

We would like to invite all women to investigate what the Auxiliary has to offer them and anyone interested in joining may contact me for application blanks.

Marion Anderson

Secretary

First Parish Church

Since our last report our proposed all-purpose room and kitchen in the basement of the church has become a practical reality. Although not completely finished it has been in almost weekly use since October last for Sunday School, Alliance and other meetings, suppers, dances, and a three day Antique Show, Fair and Food Sale. Heat, lights and water have been installed and a flight of stairs leading from the church vestry has made it possible to reach the basement without going out of doors. We hope by the end of the year to have the whole project completed. All these improvements have been made possible through the continued industry and co-operation of the capable and hard-working members of the "Miners' Club" and the Ladies' Alliance.

We have missed the support and assistance of our Committee Member and Alliance President, Mrs. Hazel Lovering, who has been absent a large part of the year because of ill-health.

Our Pastor, Reverend Philip Larson, still occupies the Church pulpit and gives us valued inspiration and help at all times.

The only death this year was that of James H. Woodward, a member of many years' standing.

Mona Gove
Parish Clerk

Tyngsborough Grange #222

Tyngsborough Grange has enjoyed a very successful year.

The Grange Home and Community Service sponsored a puppet show for the Winslow School Children. The Grange has taken over the sponsorship of all 4-H clubs in town and have appointed J. Whitney Bancroft Grange Representative to the 4-H.

In October we had Grange Installation. Deputy Joshua Hennigar and suite served as Installing suite. The officers are:

Master—Clarence A. Carkin
Overseer—James MacDowell
Lecturer—Marion Dingle, P. M.
Assistant Steward—Winifred LaCombe
Steward—George Robeson, P. M.
Chaplain—Tyra Allgrove, P. M.
Treasurer—Dorothy Magoon
Secretary—Edith M. Carter
Gate Keeper—Chester Queen
Ceres—Grace Shepherd
Pomona—Helen Defoe
Flora—Grace F. Stratton
Lady Assistant Steward—Mabel Carkin
Executive Committee—Arthur Burris, Marjorie Gustafson, Louise Downs
Home and Community—Anna Shanahan, Chairman

As Master of the Tyngsborough Grange, I extend a welcome to the new families in our town to join in this splendid Agricultural Fraternity.

Clarence Carkin
Master

Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society

The meetings of the Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society have been well attended and much interest shown in its activities.

The annual meeting in February was held at the home of Mrs. Frederick D. Lambert, Middlesex Road. The chairman of the nominating committee, Mr. Barr, presented the following slate of officers who were duly elected.

President—Mrs. William Hampton
Vice-President—Mrs. Elden Staples
Second Vice-President—Mrs. Louis Spindell
Recording Secretary—Miss Lena Coburn
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Clarence Morton
Treasurer—Mrs. Charles Coburn
Historian—Mrs. Frederick Lambert
Custodian—Mrs. Franklin Hammond
Trustee—Mr. John Barr
Auditor—Mrs. Franklin Hammond

Many interesting subjects were taken up during the year. The first being the "History of old Valentines" by Mrs. Staples. Mr.

Chester Queen gave a very interesting talk "Local Color" illustrated by pictures in color which he had taken around Town. Mrs. Hammond gave a talk on "Old quilts and coverlets." Mr. Barr took the subject, "Peddlers and street calls". Miss Flynn had as her subject, "Porcelain and pattern glass." Miss Cutter invited the members of the Society to her home in Dracut and entertained us by showing many interesting articles of "Old tin-ware" and told how each was used. The November meeting was held at the Littlefield Library. Mr. Spindell showed colored pictures which he had taken around New England. Mrs. Staples gave an extremely interesting talk with slides which were taken by Mrs. Hampton, on the "Saugus Iron Works."

Mr. Walter B. Douglass died in July and Mrs. Ruth (Proctor) Kingston in October; two members who will be sadly missed by the Society as they took a great deal of interest in the meetings.

We have 56 paid up members and several new members. The meetings are open to all those interested.

Lena M. Coburn
Recording Secretary

Ground Observer Corps

On January 1, 1958, the volunteers of the Tyngsborough Ground Observer Corps Observation Post became part of the "New Look" in Air Defense activities. Since the far northern and seaward radar systems will provide for an alert notification of the United States much more in advance than was previously possible, Ground Observers will not be required to man observation posts around the clock. Instead, these observers will receive periodic training and participate in scheduled "alert" exercises.

In addition the Air Defense Command will require that if a red alert is sounded, Ground Observers must man their posts within a maximum of thirty minutes of the time any hostile invaders are picked up by northern radar and necessitate grouping of all defense forces.

Even while in a "Ready Reserve" status the Ground Observer Corps will continue to perform its additional jobs which are of a community as well as a National service, such as reporting of severe weather, unidentified flying objects, aircraft in distress and nuclear detonations.

That we will be by no means of lesser importance under "Ready Reserve" in the Air Defense picture is evidenced by the following excerpt from a speech by Colonel Clarke, U. S. A. F. Ground Observer Corps Project Officer delivered recently in Washington, D. C.:

"It must be clearly understood that while the dynamics of Air Defense change the operational functions of the G. O. C. they do not lessen in any way the growing importance of Air Defense. Continuation of the educational and indoctrinal aspects of the G. O. C. program should be maintained with fullest vigor and support at all levels."

Training exercises are held periodically by the Filter Centers during which time the post is manned. Meetings are held periodically by the Northeastern Supervisors' Association. Educational and indoctrinal material is received from time to time from the U. S. A. F. by the Supervisors. The supervisors are in close contact also with the area Air Force Co-ordinator.

Rather than a deactivated unit, we are in fact continuing as a going operational segment of the U. S. A. F., restricted only in the extent of our activity. We are ready to respond effectively to any alert from the Air Command.

Earle R. Stratton
Supervisor

4-H Handicraft Group

Our group, which comprises 15 children, has been quite active this year and we expect to be more active next year.

The quilt which has the 48 states portrayed upon it was finished and exhibited at the fair in Concord, Mass. on August 22, 23, and 24 where it won the Blue Ribbon.

This was also exhibited at the Tyngsborough Grange Fair in September where it again took the honors.

The Grey children completed a model of the U. S. S. Constitution.

The Group meets one afternoon a week at Mrs. Ruth Boucher's.

Mrs. Ruth Boucher
Leader

First Parish Alliance

President—Mrs. Hazel Lovering
 Vice-President—Mrs. Lena Hatfield
 Treasurer—Mrs. Mildred Robinson
 Secretary—Mrs. Marjorie Constantine
 Publicity—Miss Elise Parkhurst

In the year 1957 The Ladies' Alliance of the First Parish Church had a very active and varied program.

Receiving contributions from the Alliance were the Guild for the Blind, the Hungarian Relief, and Dr. Joslin Camp for Diabetic Children. Warm clothing was sent to the Hungarian children.

During the year the Ladies' held five food sales and two plastic parties. The proceeds of these parties are furnishing the church's new kitchen with many useful articles.

On election day hot lunches were served in the lower Town Hall and the first of May the Alliance held their annual May Breakfast.

In June the Ladies enjoyed their annual trip to a local restaurant for dinner and evening together.

Three suppers were held during the year. The Bean Supper held in the month of Sept. was the first public affair to be held in the Church's new recreation hall.

In the interest of the young people of the Town, the Alliance held their first Record Hop, which was very successful.

The climax of the year was a three day Antique Fair and Christmas Sale held in the new hall. Hot meals and lunches were served during the three day period. The Fair was very interesting to the townspeople, also to our many guests from neighboring towns.

Shut-in members of the Alliance were remembered at Christmas time and the children of the Sunday School enjoyed a fine Christmas party.

Mrs. Marjorie Constantine
 Secretary

The Tyngsboro-Dunstable Co-operative Nursery School and Kindergarten Association

Now in its 2nd year of operation, has just begun the current semester in their new quarters at Pond St., Dunstable. The school is an outstanding example of the success which is possible when those who are interested in a problem work together to find and carry out a solution.

For a number of years residents of Tyngsborough and Dunstable have felt the need of a nursery school for their pre-school children. There are many children with no playmates their own age living near them. In addition, many more lack good constructive supervised play. During the winter of 1955-1956 a meeting was held to form such a school. An organization was created and officers elected. At later meetings committees were chosen, and methods of making the school a reality discussed.

The resulting school is not planned as a substitute for the home or as a low-cost baby-sitting service. Its purpose is to help the child learn to get along with others his own age, to share, cooperate and play, to develop self expression and social maturity. Nursery-Kindergarten school training is a great help at the time of entry into the first grade.

The association's school calendar closely follows that of the public schools with a single morning session from 9-11:00 A. M. five days a week. This session consists of periods of supervised play, separated by periods of rest, stories, and snacks to keep the children from getting too tired.

Weather permitting, some part of each session is held outside where a sand box, large construction blocks, boards, climbing toys and other out-of-doors equipment help to keep the children active and interested. Inside they may play house with equipment their own size. Records, musical games and stories and rhythm instruments are used to develop an appreciation of and creative interest in music. Finger painting, drawing, building with blocks, cutting and pasting, all are part of the morning's activities. Elementary science and natural history such as prisms, magnets, bugs and bird watching are fascinating to the pre-schooler. Field trips to local industries and points of interest acquaint the child with the community and its functions.

At the initial meetings, mothers agreed that regular nursery school operation with hired management, buildings and purchased supplies and equipment was too expensive and a decision was made to operate co-operatively. With the help of money raising activities the tuition has been held to a moderate fee. The largest expense has been the salary of a teacher trained and qualified for nursery-kindergarten school teaching. Parents and friends have donated

or made most of the equipment. Mothers donate one morning every other week assisting at the school under the teacher's guidance.

Children are accepted on the basis of the parents' willingness to assist in the co-operative program and the need of the child for the school. Children in good health, 2 years 8 months to school age are acceptable provided they are physically and emotionally ready to spend a few hours a day away from their parents. There are still a limited number of openings for parents wishing to enroll their children for the present term.

The school has been approved by the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health. Officers of the association include Mrs. Charles Wilton, President, Mrs. O. Fletcher Pyle, Vice-President, Mrs. James Cunningham, Secretary and Mrs. Lawrence Desmond, Treasurer. Mrs. James Armour of Chelmsford is the school's much loved teacher.

If you would like further information, if you want to help or if you have usable play equipment, lumber, paint or hardware you would like to donate, please call Mrs. Wilton, NI 9-6536 or Mrs. Pyle NI 9-6585.

Industrious Club

The Industrious Club was started after the Middlesex Extension Service meetings disbanded here. We have done sewing and knitting in previous years, now we send donations to the children's Hospital in Boston, and the Children's Home in Lowell, also send cards to the sick. We have thirty members and meet on the second Thursday of each month. Usually at the different members' homes, and sometimes meet at some local restaurant for dinner and our meeting. Our meetings are from ten o'clock to four, with dinner at noon.

We do sewing and crocheting and enjoy a social day. Anyone wishing to join us is very welcome.

Ethel Sargent
 Secretary

Girl Scout Troop #29

The past year has been an active one with a varied program.

We had an active part in the District Rally and participated in the Memorial Day services and parade.

In connection with badge work, the troop visited a local veterinary hospital and in the fall a square dance party was held.

Scouts Linda Carkin and Linda Herrmann achieved the First Class badge. Eight Second Class badges and sixty-two Proficiency badges were awarded. These included First Aid, Cat and Dog, Prints, Adventurer, Clerk and Folk Dancer.

The troop completed four service work projects, including scrapbooks and tray favors for hospitals.

The March Cookie Sale was the largest ever and we sincerely appreciate the response of the community in this endeavor. The proceeds enabled the entire group with three leaders to enjoy the adventure of an overnight troop camping trip at Camp Runels in Pelham. The enjoyable memories of such experiences are lasting ones.

In November at joint Investiture services with Troops #118 and #208, six girls were welcomed into the circle of scouting. Also at this time, Mrs. Helen Gavlik became our leader with Mrs. Margaret Morton, Mrs. Eleanor LeMasurier and Mrs. Blanche Clarke assistant leaders.

Our Troop Committee consisting of Mrs. Harvey Pineo, Mrs. Maxwell Sherburne, Mrs. Richard Starkey, Miss Irene Mitchell and Mrs. Forrest Ames are ever ready helping hands when needed.

We, as leaders hope that, by trying to live according to their Girl Scout Promise and Laws, as they plan and work together, will be an advantage to the girls later on in life.

We thank all who have helped to make this a successful scout year for us.

Blanche L. Clarke
 Assistant Leader

Girl Scout Troop #208

Our Brownies began this season with one thought uppermost in their minds, soon they would become Girl Scouts, and they worked towards this goal thru-out the year.

In April we had our Birthday Party at which time 22 girls received their attendance pins.

For Memorial Day we made a wreath and participated in the Annual Exercises.

June found us with two big events; our Mother-Daughter cook-out and the Annual Brownie Rally held this year at Wicassee Ball Park.

In the Fall we really began to work on our Tenderfoot requirements and November 12, 1957 became our big day. On that day our entire troop including Leaders attended a Fly-up ceremony at Lakeview School and became Full-Fledged Girl Scouts. Girls receiving their wings and their official Girl Scout pins were:

Sharon Bell, Diane Belida, Linda Boradawka, Catherine Carey, Joyce Flanders, Ann Fuller, Brenda Fuller, Linda Gendreau, Jeanne Kelly, Linda Landry, Linda McInerney, Diane Porter, Patricia Reed, Carol Sanford, Dorothy Singleton, Rena Turcotte.

Girls invested as new Scouts were:

Jeannine Langlois, Irene Mercier, Lea Poitras, Sharon Sousa.

We also had four Fly-ups that went to Troop #29:

Elizabeth Avery, Maureen Cobleigh, Priscilla Lambert, Cynthia Peters.

We wish to thank everyone who helped us through-out the year. Our wonderful Troop Committee and the Firemen for the use of Fire Station #2.

Sharlee J. Porter, Leader
Mrs. Edward McInerney
Mrs. William Landry
Assistant Leaders

Bird Notes

Awards for occupied bird houses and bird lists were made early in June at the Winslow and Lakeview Schools by the Bird Committee of the Grange.

Members of the sixth grade had bird walks led by Mrs. Vera Constantine, Miss Anna Elliott and Mrs. Catherine Lambert, on which they identified thirty different species of birds.

Unusual interest was shown by pupils of all grades in putting up bird houses and feeders to attract the birds. They enjoyed watching to see what kinds of food the birds liked best and how to place the houses so the birds would choose them.

Twenty children of Grades 3 to 5 in the Lakeview School and thirty in Grades 1 to 8 in the Winslow School received prizes for occupied houses. Some pupils had several houses.

The Committee on visiting the houses found wrens, tree swallows and bluebirds most common.

The Grange Committee is very grateful to Principal Richard O. Starkey and the teachers of both schools for their splendid cooperation.

Bird Committee of the Tyngsborough Grange

Parent-Teacher Association

The Parent-Teacher Association of the Lakeview Elementary School and the Winslow School, meet the first Tuesday of each month, with the exception of January. The April and December meetings are extra special meetings to look forward to. At the April meetings there is a school exhibition of the work the children have done all year. The teachers do an excellent job in decorating their rooms. This exhibition is wonderful in that it shows how the pupil has progressed all year.

At the December meeting there is a very fine Christmas Pageant put on by the upper grades. This year we had a very successful cake sale. The cakes were generously donated by the P. T. A. members.

The purpose of the P. T. A. is to have a better understanding with the home and school, to help the school get needed equipment and to help the school and pupils whenever it sees fit. This year we are buying milk for the needy children in school. We have bought six (6) new raincoats for the Lakeview Safety Patrol, we bought silverware for the Lakeview School Cafeteria and films for the upper grades. The P. T. A. also pays for the cook-out every year for the graduation class.

A silver collection is held at each meeting and the proceeds go to the class having the largest number of parents present. With this money the teacher buys necessary needs of the class.

Five dollars is given to the class that has the largest membership in the P. T. A. This year we had five (5) classes that had 100% membership. We now have 365 members. The teachers

and pupils really went all out this year to set this splendid record.

Plans are now under way for a baked bean, ham and salad supper, to be held at the Lakeview School. Date to be announced later.

The officers for the year are:

President—Mrs. George Shipley
Vice-President—Mr. George Woodsum
Secretary—Mrs. Thomas Magarian
Treasurer—Mrs. Myrtle Allen

Committee Chairmen:

Ways and Means—Mrs. Fredrick Flanders
Membership—Miss Harris and Mrs. Tarrant
Program—Mrs. Warley and Mrs. Laughton

The faculty and officers are grateful to the members who have contributed so generously to the success of this organization.

Mrs. Thomas Magarian
Secretary

The Pilgrim Fellowship

The Pilgrim Fellowship is a group of young people from Tyngsborough interested in Faith, Action, and Fellowship, meeting at 7:00 Sunday evenings at the Evangelical Congregational Church.

The officers are as follows:

President—Suzie DuBois
Vice-President—Linda Carkin
Secretary—Loretta Biggar
Treasurer—Iona Ford
Faith Commission—Richard Lustig
Action Commission—Donald McPhee
Fellowship Commission—Sandra Wilkins

Our purpose is to know God in our lives as revealed by Jesus Christ, to worship him only, to study his truth and to dedicate ourselves to do his will, to witness to the message and mission of the church among all people, serving the world in the name of Christ, and striving toward the establishment of brotherhood, justice and peace, and to cooperate with all who seek to extend the Christian fellowship.

Among the programs and speakers enjoyed were Mr. Mark Kawai from Japan, a study of the world's religion, rallies, a retreat and the University of Life series. Other activities included a swimming party, a dance, a booth at the church fair and a play. Profits from money raising events are expected to be used to send some young people to camp this summer.

We welcome all young people of high school age to participate in our weekly meetings.

Loretta Biggar
Secretary

Evangelical Men's Club

The Evangelical Men's Club, which was organized only a few years ago, is now a full-fledged fellowship organization pledged to the betterment of the church and of our community.

There were ten regular meetings held during the year at the church. On one occasion our regular monthly meeting took place at the home of Mr. Preston S. Fay where a very enjoyable cook-out took place.

The Men's Club is entirely dependent upon baked bean suppers as their main source of income. In the past year four suppers were served and the Memorial Day dinner.

During the past year our club voted various sums of money which were expended for various causes such as a two hundred dollar donation to our church. There were other services and renovations rendered: in the church an exhaust fan was installed in the kitchen; paying for one third of the new heating unit which was installed; and painting of the church which was financed in part by the club. The members of the Men's Club gave their time most generously in rendering their services whenever necessary.

All men of the town who are interested are cordially invited. to attend our monthly meetings and enjoy our evenings of fellowship together. The meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month except July and August.

The following officers were elected for 1958:

President—Dr. Clarence Bent
Vice-President—Richard Fay
Secretary—Frank D. Parker
Treasurer—Robert Lorman

Chaplain—Rev. Stacey Richards

Auditor—George Robeson

Respectfully submitted,

Frank D. Parker
Secretary

Ladies Social Circle

The Ladies Social Circle meets the first Wednesday of each month except July and August which are combined. Most of these meetings are held at the homes of the members.

During the past year, the ladies have held bean suppers, food sales and a Fall Fair which have all been successful financially. We have paid our church pledge and have contributed to several projects at the church or parsonage. We have also contributed to the March of Dimes, United Fund, Children's Medical Center and other deserving causes. We have sent cards, flowers and gifts to shut-ins in the town at Easter and Christmas and in times of sickness and sorrow.

At our annual meeting the officers for 1958 were elected as follows:

President—Mrs. Charles Coburn
Vice-President—Mrs. Louise Downs
Secretary and Publicity—Mrs. Harvey Pineo
Treasurer—Mrs. Bertram Currier
Directresses—Mrs. Charles Haley, Mrs. Preston Fay, Mrs. Harvey Pineo

Remembrance Committee—Mrs. Alfred Gustafson

We are always pleased to have visitors at our meetings and to receive new members at any time.

Lillian W. Pineo
Secretary

Brownie Troop #218

Starting our second year of this program, we found it necessary to separate Troop 217 and Troop 218 because of the double session school day. Troop 218 met at 1 o'clock in the lower Town Hall.

In the fall, we had a snow party at the Warren Allgrove home where all participated in coasting and romping in the snow.

The girls made felt eyeglass cases to give as Christmas presents and holiday parties were enjoyed by all.

The proper respect, display and disposal of the American flag was taught to the members.

Camping techniques were taught to the girls and these were put to good use when the girls went to Day Camp in Groton for the last two weeks in June. This was quite an experience and was enjoyed by both the girls and leaders.

A Brownie rally held in the spring enabled the girls to display some of the projects they participated in throughout the year and exchange ideas with the other Brownies.

In the fall, we were again able to consolidate with Troop 217, and aside from our holiday gift projects, we hope to spend this coming year in acquainting the girls with the ideas and ideals of Girl Scouts. We are looking forward to our flying-up at the end of this year as this is the true purpose of the Brownie program, a prelude to Girl Scouting.

Marion Anderson
Leader

Brownie Troop #30

Brownie Troop 30 was started on October 9, 1957. I have 25 girls in all. 15 of these were new Brownies. They were invested November 13, 1957. I was very lucky to have Mrs. Oliver Robinson and Mrs. Arthur Lacombe as assistant leaders.

The troop is still quite new to me, but so far I feel we have done a lot of things, such as make nut cups for a Nursing Home at Thanksgiving and nut cups for a Hospital at Christmas. Also, at Christmas the children gave gifts to a Children's Home in Lowell. We made pictures for walls, lapel pins and at Christmas, Aprons for their mothers. We had parties on the holidays. The month of January we missed Brownies due to bad weather on Brownie Day.

In October and November Mrs. Robinson and myself attended the Leaders Course at Lowell Girl Scout Headquarters. This we found most helpful and interesting in helping the girls in the troop.

At this time I'd like to thank two Senior Girl Scouts who have helped a great deal, Miss Loretta Biggar and Miss Linda Carlin, and my assistant leaders and the mothers of the girls in the Brownies; also, the Firemen for use of the Lakeview Fire Station.

Mrs. Donald A. Whitney
Leader

Brownie Troop #255

Troop 255 was organized in the fall of 1956 under the leadership of Mrs. Eleanor LeClair of Mission Road, assisted by Mrs. Myrtle Fuller of Frost Road. Due to a transportation problem for both the leaders and the girls, two patrols were formed and the girls met with the leaders living in their respective locales and had joint meetings when they could.

We tried to keep the activities in both groups as nearly the same as we could; and the girls had a wonderful time making Christmas aprons, doll clothes, bird feeders, yarn dolls, nut cups, valentines, having nature walks, etc.

Circumstances prevented Mrs. LeClair from continuing as leader in the fall when the new scout year began, and I took the leadership of the troop. A new second grade meant new Brownies to be added to the troop. We now have thirteen members. Mrs. Margaret Knisley and Mrs. Caroline Chronopoulos are assistants.

We want to thank our troop committee for transportation to the milk farm and to the rally which was held at the ball park.

Myrtle Fuller
Leader

Girl Scout Troop #118

Meets on Monday at Fire Station #2. We have 18 registered scouts with 2 leaders.

We have earned My Community, second class, First Aid and Needlecraft badges, 3 girls are now taking second class badge with troop 208.

Our troop also took part in investiture with Troops 29 and 208, with two girls being invested from our troop: Carol Ford and Sandra Lussier.

Have made nut cups and a wreath for community service. Participated in Memorial Day parade and also Girl Scout Rally at Tyngsborough Country Club.

We have had many enjoyable times including a week-end at the summer home of Mrs. Maxwell Sherburne.

I wish to thank all my Troop Committee and all who helped to make it a successful year.

Ruth Singleton
Leader

Jean Burris
Assistant Leader

Brownie Troop #217

Brownie Troop 217, the third graders in the second session of school, began their second year of activities in the fall of 1956. The meeting place was the Town Hall, but on nice days we had short hikes to my home for outdoor activities and explorations in the woods.

The girls tried their hands at making puppets, making Christmas tree decorations, growing plants, and worked for several meetings on aprons for their mothers on which project they learned textile painting under the direction of Mrs. John Sanders. They learned to make fires properly in the outdoors with materials at hand, were taught flag etiquette, how to set a table properly, and how to make a bed properly. The girls enjoyed learning new games—quiet ones, noisy ones, and some to sing and dance to. We had a wonderful time one Saturday visiting the Elm Haven Dairy Farm in conjunction with Troop 218. We also visited a chinchilla experimental station on Pawtucket Blvd. operated by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kennedy. In May the girls participated in the Brownie Rally at Wickasee Ball Park and also took part in the exercises on Memorial Day.

In the fall of 1957 when we resumed activities, double sessions had been eliminated and Mrs. Robert Anderson was able to have Troop 218 meet jointly with our troop, with Mrs. John Sanders continuing as assistant leader. The previous year we stressed helping in the home, but the girls are now learning to help in their communities and are preparing themselves to "fly up" to the Intermediate Girl Scout Troop. The patrol system has been inaugurated, patrol leaders elected, and the girls given some responsibility in selecting and carrying out their own program. The girls will learn the Intermediate Girl Scout Laws and Promise and meet the Tenderfoot requirements by fly-up time in the spring.

We want to express our thanks to the mothers of the girls who have assisted with transportation and in many other ways during the past year.

Marie Allgrove
Leader



The American Legion Robert D. Pelletier American Legion Post #247, Inc.

For God and Country

The Post has continued its activities on many fronts.

It has cooperated with other posts through meeting its financial obligations to the Sub-District and District (County) Councils and through delegate representation at the Council Meetings.

It has been well represented at the rehabilitation projects for the patients at the Bedford Hospital.

The post has also been represented on several County Committees and one of its members has for the third year been given an appointment on a national level.

While the Town's total contribution to the March of Dimes fell off markedly from last year, the post and auxiliary, through the Legion's Blue Crutch program collected approximately 20% of the Town's contribution, doubling its percentage of last year.

It has donated to the United and other Fund projects and shared in lighting the Town tree at Christmas time.

The post is represented on the Town's Memorial Day Committee by Commander Richard Starkey, P. C. Thomas Linscott and P. C. Anthony Kisley. It conducts its own ceremonies at the Town's Cemeteries and is responsible for the maintenance of flags on veterans graves.

One of the Post's significant contributions to the Legion's Americanism and National Security programs was the creation of an American Legion Shelf in the Public Library. The Post takes this opportunity to express its appreciation to the Trustees of the Library for their approval of the creation of such a shelf.

The initial contribution to this shelf was a library of pamphlets and books dealing with the very real Communist threat to our national existence. This material originated with the Congressional Committees of Un-American activities and was donated to the Library in the name of the Legion, by P. C. Earle Stratton, a general member of the Legion's National Committee of Counter Subversive Activities.

Each Legion year in a post's history is often marked by some outstanding event. One such year was during the administration of P. C. Harvey Pineo when a Building Fund was conceived and established.

During the intervening years this fund with its interest compounded had reached proportions large enough to warrant serious consideration of post owned quarters.

This Legion year is outstanding in the Post's history in that it saw the fruition of its longtime hopes that it would some day own its own home.

On December 13, 1957 a negotiating committee, elected by the Post, met with the attorney for the Manchester Savings and Loan Association of Manchester, New Hampshire and papers were passed transferring the ownership of the property on Pawtucket Boulevard known as the Golden Jade Restaurant.

This property, gutted by fire before purchase, was winterized by the skilled comrades of the Post under the direction of Comrade Kenneth Porter. Work was then immediately begun on the renovation and, where necessary, the remodeling of the property. This work was planned and supervised by Comrade Victor Illg the Building Inspector of the Town of Tyngsborough. Again the Post produced a remarkable number of skills in the building trade and Comrade Illg and his men have done an outstanding job.

The Executive Board, in fact, passed a resolution of praise and appreciation of the speed and expertness with which the work was being done and the enthusiasm of the comrades in carrying out their several tasks.

Commander Starkey will shortly appoint a committee to arrange for an appropriate dedication and open house next spring.

There is a spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm almost unprecedented in the history of the Post. It is all evidence that it is

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We welcome you as a member of this Post.

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Commander—Richard Starkey
Senior Vice Commander—John Mackey—(Hector Bailey)
Junior Vice Commander—Philip Bradbury—(John Mackey)
Adjutant—Earle Stratton
Service Officer—Francis Bevins
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Finance Officer—Lawrence Magoon
Auditor—Louis Evans
Judge Advocate—Warren Allgrove
Historian—Kenneth Porter
Chaplain—George Abdallah

Executive Committee
P. C. Anthony Kisley
P. C. Thomas Linscott
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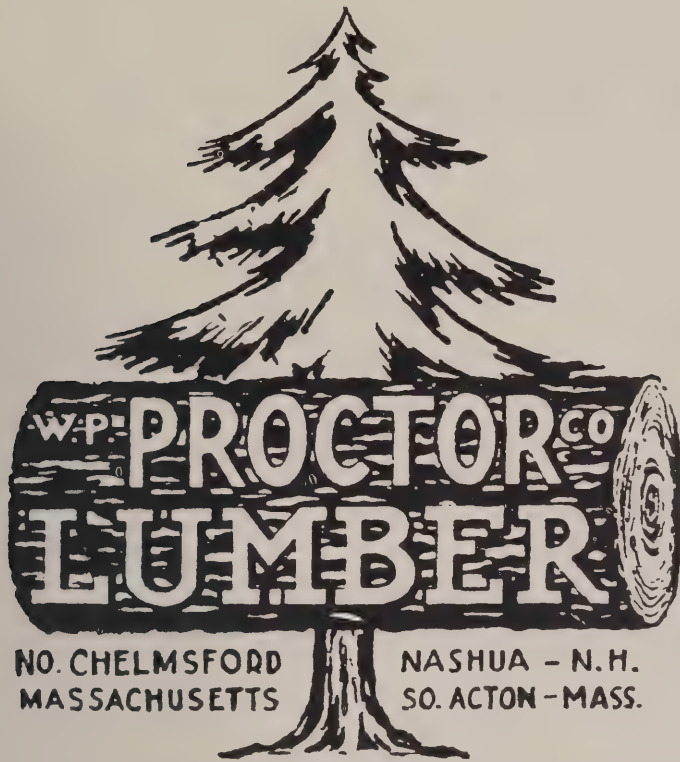
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